

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

The claims are 1-5; 7-11, and 13-19. Claim 1 has been amended to improve its form and to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6. Accordingly, claim 6 has been canceled, and claims 7-8 and 10, which previously depended on claim 6, have been amended to depend on claim 1. Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent form substantially as new claim 19. Accordingly, claim 12 has been canceled, and claims 13 and 14, which previously depended on claim 12 have been amended to depend on new claim 19. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action.

In response, Applicant has amended claim 1 to remove the recitation "for example, lenticular or granular", and to change the word "same" to --drum-- in order to provide antecedent basis. It is respectfully submitted that all currently pending claims fully comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and Applicant

respectfully requests that the rejection on that basis be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Long Jr. et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,494,709* in view of *EP 0 545 065*. Claims 1-5 and 16-18 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Schady U.S. Patent No. 3,934,545* in view of *EP 0 327 789, Carlson U.S. Patent No. 6,582,516, and Ogura et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,513,659* (claims 1-5 and 18) or further in view of *EP '065* (claims 16-17). The Examiner has also indicated, however, that claims 6-11 and 12-14 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, and in order to expedite this case, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6, has rewritten claim 12 in independent form substantially as new claim 19, has amended claims 7, 8 and 10 to depend on claim 1 and claims 13 and 14 to depend on new claim 19, and has canceled

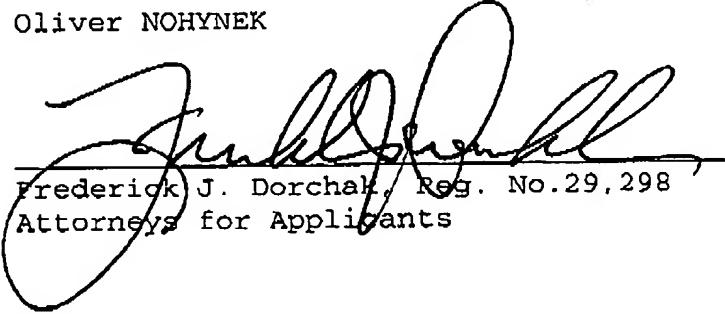
claims 6 and 12. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all currently pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

In summary, claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 13 and 14 have been amended, claims 6 and 12 have been canceled, and new claim 19 has been added. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile-transmission to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 21, 2006.


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